



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Attorney Docket No. 016790-0428**

Applicant: Holger BIRK, et al  
Title: METHOD AND INSTRUMENT FOR MICROSCOPY  
Application No.: 09/881,049  
Filing Date: June 15, 2001  
Examiner: Healy, Brian  
Art Unit: 2874

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated December 29, 2003, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicant has enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: